

IN MEMORY OF LANCE CORPORAL  
ANDREW FRANCIS WHITACRE

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2008*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fallen hero who served his country bravely in Iraq and Afghanistan. I was deeply saddened to learn of the loss of Lance Corporal Andrew Whitacre of Bryant, Indiana, one of two Marines who perished while conducting combat operations in southwestern Afghanistan's Farah Province on Thursday, June 19, 2008.

Lance Cpl. Whitacre was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Twentynine Palms, California. He was serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, where his unit was helping to train the Afghan national police.

The three Marine Corps values are honor, courage and commitment. They make up the bedrock of the character of each individual Marine. These values, handed down from generation to generation, have made the U.S. Marine Corps the most respected and revered fighting force on earth. Lance Cpl. Whitacre personified these values and continued that proud tradition as a Marine who served his country bravely in combat.

An Infantry Assaultman, part of a gun team attached to his infantry unit, Lance Cpl. Whitacre's stock and trade was demolitions, breaching, and firing shoulder-launched assault weapons. As I'm sure his fellow 2/7 Marines who trusted their lives to his special explosives training would tell you, Lance Cpl. Whitacre was an asset to the Marine Corps, the United States and the American way of life. He will be sorely missed by all.

In addition to any posthumous commendations that he might receive because he died in the line of duty, Lance Cpl. Whitacre was the recipient of six awards since he left for Marine Corps boot camp in July 2005. He earned ribbons for combat action and overseas service, including campaign medals for Iraq and Afghanistan.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Lance Cpl. Whitacre. And I wish to express my profound sadness to the community of Bryant, especially his father and stepmother, Ernie and Norma Whitacre; his mother and her fiancée, Susan Nunly and Michael Perry of Dunkirk; his fiancée, Casey McGuire of Parker, Arizona; two brothers, Ryan Murphy of Lancaster, Indiana and Justin Miller of Huntington; one sister, Ashley Williams of Lancaster, Indiana; four grandmothers, Mildred Whitacre of Berne, Caroline Huffman of Kendallville, Beulah Murphy of Bluffton and Mary Scott of Portland; and, many nieces and nephews.

We are all struggling to cope with the tragic loss of this young man, no less because his death follows hard on the heels of another fallen Marine from the Sixth District who was lost less than a week before. Just as Lance Cpl. Whitacre embodied the Marine motto—Semper Fidelis, "Always Faithful"—let us also be faithful to extend a helping hand to his family, friends and community, and remember them in our thoughts and prayers.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2008*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, yesterday I missed one vote, and on Rollcall No. 447 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 6327, the Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2008, I would have voted "yea."

### TRIBUTE TO SANDI WHITE

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Sandi White, Secretary of the Greene County, Iowa Sheriff's Office, and to express my appreciation for her nearly 25 years of public service to her community.

In 1984, Sandi took a part time dispatcher position before taking over the full time graveyard shift in 1987. When the secretary's position opened, she jumped at the opportunity and has served in that position until her retirement in February. During her years at the Greene County Sheriff's office, Sandi's hard work has earned her the respect and appreciation of her community.

I commend Sandi White for her many years of loyalty and service to her fellow Iowans. It is an honor to represent Sandi in Congress, and I know my colleagues join me in wishing her a happy and healthy retirement.

### EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICE OF MR. EUGENE BROWN AND THE NAVY ARMED GUARD DURING WORLD WAR II

### HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2008*

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to more than 144,000 members of the Navy Armed Guard who served during World War II. Their service protecting merchant ships from enemy attack and ensuring needed supplies, ammunition, and troops made it across the world's oceans was an effort that helped lead America and her allies to victory. In 1998, Congress enacted Public Law 105-261, Section 534, stating Congress' "appreciation for service during World War I and World War II by members of the Navy assigned onboard merchant ships as the Naval Armed Guard Service." Today, I would also like to specifically mention one of my constituents, Mr. Eugene George Brown, and thank him for his service in the Navy Armed Guard. Following his entry into the Navy from Queens, New York, Mr. Brown served more than 3 years in the Navy Armed Guard, protecting the SS *ROBIN LOCKSLEY*, SS

*FLOMAR*, and SS *MILL SPRING* in the American, Pacific, Asiatic, European, African, and Middle East theaters of World War II. But most importantly, then Seaman First Class George earned the Victory Medal, with its inscription on the obverse—Freedom From Fear and Want; Freedom of Religion and Speech. Mister Speaker, on behalf of the Congress, I wish to thank Mr. Brown and his more than 144,000 shipmates of the Navy Armed Guard during World War II, and pay tribute to the 1,810 who were killed in action. Their service and sacrifice is recognized and appreciated by a grateful Nation.

### HONORING THE VETERANS OF HONOR FLIGHT CHICAGO

### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2008*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Chicago-area veterans of World War II who have arrived today on Honor Flight Chicago to visit the memorial that is dedicated to them, and to celebrate the country that they helped define.

These are the men who proudly wore the uniform of this country, endured the rigors of the war, and fought for our liberty and the freedom of future generations of Americans. While their wartime experiences are as varied as the paths they took following the war, they all remain united in defense of the values that shape our identity as a Nation: love of freedom and respect for human dignity.

Few members of the "greatest generation" spoke about their wartime experiences without evoking painful and emotional recollections of their experiences in World War II, and fewer still asked for recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in welcoming these veterans to our Nation's Capital on this day. It is my privilege to honor each one.

Charles S. Affolter, Fredric S. Appelman, Francis Bailey, Edward Bednarczyk, Larry Black, Delmar Bond, Kenneth J. Chelmowski, John J., Sr. Cooney, Gilbert R. Dumdie, Bernard Edelman, Stanley Ewasiuk, Tom Flanagan, Henry W. Flora, Alfred Galvan, Robert E. Georgen, Melvin R. Gerberding, Lloyd Getz, Joseph Virgil Gray, Donald Harner.

Mark Hashimoto, Loyde A. Henry, Jesse Hidalgo, John Howard, Richard P. Hyland, Raymond Janus, Alvin S. Johnson, Phillip J. Joseph, Harold E. Kalbas, Merritt A. King, Kyril (Carl) Kirk, Norman F. Kosman, Robert P. Krautstrunk, Joseph K. Kulinski, Keith F. Lawler, Sr., John S. Manasse, Dominic Martinucci, Elroy E. Meyer, Robert W. Mitchler, Samuel Mizra.

Nicholas Moorad, Amos Nicholson, Joseph A. Oruzco, Robert L. Palis, James W. Reilly, Melvin Rosenfeld, Gordon R. Schnulle, John I. Shumaker, James R. Taff, Lincoln S. Tamraz, Donald L. Thompson, Peter C. Urbane, Merrill S. Urbane, Sr., Raymond C. Wagner, Edward G. Wagner, John A. Weber, Ernest Westman, Stanley R. Williams, Jr., Armand E. Wormley, John H. Zeilstra.